



¶ By the King.

¶ A Proclamation for the better Confining of
Popish Recusants, Conuict according
to the Lawe.



Hereas by Our Lawes, all Popish Recusants Conuict ought to remaine Confined to their dwellings, or places of abode, or within five miles thereof, unlesse in cases necessary, vpon special Licences obtained, according to the same Lawes; And where Our loving Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament did, amongst other things, humbly petition Us, That for the better securing of Our State against the ill affections of Jesuited Papists,

these Lawes might be put in due execution:

Wee, conceining that these Lawes will be executed with better successe, if wee shall publish Our resolution herein, and by some fitting Cautions prevent those euasions, which haue been heretofore practised for the deluding of those Lawes, and propound Rewards to those, who shall discouer the offenders, haue thought fit by this Our Royall Proclamation to declare, and doe hereby declare Our will and pleasure concerning the premisses, in manner following.

First therefore, wee doe hereby publish Our full resolution to bee, and doe hereby straitly charge and command, that those Lawes concerning the confining of Popish Recusants, bee from henceforth duly obserued, and that the offenders against the same shall incurre and receive those penallties and punishments which their high contempts deserue, and which by Our Lawes ought to be inflicted vpon them.

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And further, wee doe hereby straitly charge and command all persons whatsoeuer, which by the sayd Lawes haue power to grant Licences, in cases necessary, to dispence with the Confinement of Popish Recusants conuict, for a time, that they take speciall care, that they grant no Licences, but in such cases where they shall finde good probability of trueth in the suggestions made for the obtaining thereof, and then but for such time onely, as in their iudgements is conuenient for the dispatch of those occasions and busynesses which are suggested to mooue the granting of those Licences.

And we doe further straitly charge and command, That no Popish Recusant conuict doe presume to make any feigned or vntrue suggestion, for the obtaining of such Licence; or if he, or shee shall haue cause to trauaile from the place of their Confinement, that they doe not suggest their busynesses to be of other nature, then in trueth they be, or to require longer time of dispatch then is requisite, that so they may returne againe to their places of Confinement, without any vnnescessarie delay; and that during the time permitted vnto them by their Licences, they take heede that they abuse not the Libertie granted vnto them for other purposes, then were truely intended vnto them. And if any shall aduenture to offend herein, wee doe hereby giue them knowledge, that they must expect that punishment, which by Our Lawes, or by Our prerogative Royall, can iustly be inflicted vpon the offenders for so high a contempt.

And lastly, lest the hope of impunitie may giue encouragement to any to offend, wee doe hereby promise, which wee will constantly performe. That whosoever shall discouer any offenders, or offenders against Our sayd Lawes, or against this Our Royall Proclamation, vnto Our Attourney Generall, for the time being, whom wee haue commanded to take knowledge of all such Informations, and to proceed against the offenders according to the due course of Our Lawes, that such persons who shall make such discouerie, and prooue the same, whereby any offenders may receive their deserued punishment, shall be rewarded with a full fourth part of the Forfeitures, which shall, or may come or accrue vnto vs vpon the Conuiction of the offenders, or other Judgement or Sentence legally had against them, to intitle vs therunto, as of Our free Gift.

Giuen at White-Hall, the eleuenth day of Januari, in the first yeere of Our Reigne
of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.



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to the Kings most Excellent Maiestie.

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